

**YEAR 34
CDBG ACTION PLAN
CITY OF FITCHBURG**

AMENDMENT #1 – September 16, 2008

PUBLIC FACILITIES AND IMPROVEMENTS

Rollstone Street Walking Path

\$20,000.00

Summary: Project funds will be used to cover material costs for new fencing and a portion of DPW labor costs to widen and repave the Rollstone Street section of the Forest Hill Cemetery walking path, including the installation of new fencing. Sidewalks will be made ADA Compliant.

Performance Measurement: SL-3. The goal of this project is an improved sidewalk system for the users of Forest Hill Cemetery Walking Path. The benefit to users is a safe and accessible path of travel along this route. Approximately 1400 lf of sidewalk and fencing on the east side of Rollstone Street will be replaced, from Mt. Elam Road to Rollstone Road. It is estimated that 17,347 people will be served.

Park/Playground Improvements

\$215,000.00

Summary: Project funds will be used as a match to an Urban Self-Help Grant for Coolidge Park Phase II renovations, including drainage, parking and traffic flow improvements.

Performance Measurement: SL-3. The goal of this project is improved recreational opportunities for individuals using city parks. The benefit to users is the provision of a safe and secure recreational facility. It is estimated that 20,000 people live within 1¼ miles of the Coolidge Park.

Central Steam Plant Facility Clean Up Project

\$40,000.00

Summary: Project funds will be used to match an Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Brownfields Clean Up grant to remove contaminants from the water and soil, and remove asbestos material at the Central Steam Plant facility.

Performance Measurement: SL-3. The goal of this project is to identify the extent and nature of contamination at this facility and to develop a plan for its

remediation, to ultimately contribute to the economic redevelopment of the surrounding neighborhood. The benefit of this project is the creation of a recreational area that is contaminant free. It is estimated that 1,588 people in the immediate neighborhood will be served.

Sawyer Passway Initiative

\$65,000.00

Summary: Project funds will be used to match a Community Development Action Grant (CDAG) to make infrastructure improvements in the Sawyer Passway area, including the water main, sewer, sidewalks, lighting and street surfacing.

Performance Measurement: SL-3. The goal of this project is an improved infrastructure system which spans 1,000 feet along Hayden and Sawyer Passway. The benefit of this project is economic growth in the Sawyer Passway area, resulting in job creation and tax revenue for the city. It is estimated that 39,000 will be served.

TOTAL PUBLIC FACILITIES AND IMPROVEMENTS

\$340,000.00

PUBLIC SERVICES

Drug Enforcement and Strategic Foot Patrol

\$72,000.00

Summary: Project funds will be used to provide for Police Department overtime expenses related to drug investigations in CDBG eligible areas. Funds will also be used to implement strategic foot patrols to reduce street crime and increase citizen safety in conjunction with the Elm Street neighborhood initiative.

Performance Measurement: SL-3. The goal of this project is to reduce drug distribution in CDBG neighborhoods. The benefit of this project will result in neighborhoods where residents can safely live, socialize and recreate. Approximately 23,871 people will benefit from this project.

Building Leadership and Inspiring Self-Sufficiency Project

\$57,000.00

Summary: Project funds will support staffing and administrative costs of the Cleghorn Neighborhood Center, including information and referral, bi-lingual and bi-cultural services to Latino residents, GED classes in Spanish, ESL classes, and youth services for Cleghorn residents. The office is located at 2-18 Fairmount Street.

Performance Measurement: SL-1. The goal of this project is the provision of a one-stop social service program to residents in the Cleghorn neighborhood and citywide Latino information and referral services. The benefit is individual skill-building and neighborhood needs assessment. Approximately 9,000 (duplicated count) people will be served.

Hmong-Lao Community Outreach**\$28,000.00**

Summary: Project funds will pay for a Coordinator's salary (25 hrs./week) plus administrative costs. Staff will assist the Hmong-Laotian community with various information and referral services. The Coordinator will work collaboratively with the Hmong Lao Foundation Board. The project will be administered by the Montachusett Opportunity Council at its 9 Prichard Street office.

Performance Measurement: SL-1. The goal of this project is to provide access to social services and help the Hmong-Lao population integrate within the Fitchburg community. The benefit is increased employability, English proficiency and improved matriculation. Approximately 90 Fitchburg residents will be served.

Afterschool Program**\$20,000.00**

Summary: Project will fund Program Instructor and Team Leader of the Boys and Girls Club to provide after school educational and recreational academic year program for Fitchburg youth ages 8-18. The program helps with homework, learning and leisure activities, parent/adult involvement, collaboration with schools and incentives. Fitchburg youth will be served at Fitchburg State College Parkinson Gymnasium.

Performance Measurement: SL-1. The goal of this project is to provide a safe place for students to gather after school. The benefit to program participants is the building of life skills that can be incorporated into daily life. Approximately 280 Fitchburg youth will be served.

TOTAL PUBLIC SERVICES**\$177,000.00****ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT****Micro-Enterprise/ Business Assistance Program****\$15,000.00**

Summary: Project will supplement outreach activities and technical assistance of the Twin Cities CDC to small businesses and leverage micro-loan program (up to \$50,000) for low-moderate income individuals.

Performance Measurement: EO-3. The goal of this program is to assist entrepreneurs in the start-up of small businesses in Fitchburg and assist existing businesses create and retain jobs. The benefit of this project is improved economic development. An estimated 80 Fitchburg residents and 40 businesses will be served, 30 jobs created/retained and 10 business plans developed.

Downtown Coordinator Position**\$5,000.00**

Summary: Project funds will be used to supplement funds available in Year 34 for this position. The Economic Development Office will provide a \$10,000.00 match.

Performance Measurement: EO-3. The goal of this project is to address the commercial and economic development needs of Fitchburg's downtown, and address issues of blight created by storefront vacancies. The benefit of this project is an improved business district along Main Street and a more vibrant business center. It is estimated that 15 microenterprises will receive technical assistance, 15 jobs will be created/retained, and 5 storefront vacancies will be filled.

TOTAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**\$20,000.00****CLEARANCE ACTIVITIES****Demolition****\$89,049.08**

Summary: Project funds will be used to remove abandoned structures in CDBG areas which pose an imminent threat to public safety and which contribute to slums and blight.

Performance Measurement: SL-3. The goal of this project is the reduction of slums and blight and the revitalization of neighborhoods. The benefit of this project is the improved appearance of neighborhoods, increased public safety and the removal of dangerous structures. It is estimated that 2 properties will be demolished.

TOTAL CLEARANCE ACTIVITIES**\$89,049.08****REHABILITATION AND PRESERVATION****Elder Home Repair Program****\$60,000.00**

Summary: Project will fund program costs for home repairs and modifications to low income elderly Fitchburg households. Improvements include installation of handrails/grab bars, screen/window/door/floor repairs, minor roof repairs, and hot water tank replacement. The program will be administered by the Montachusett Opportunity Council at its 66 Day Street office.

Performance Measurement: DH-1. The goal of this project is to help elders remain in their own home for as long as possible, by providing affordable home repairs. The benefit of this project to elders is improved safety, accessibility and living conditions. Approximately 18 homes will be served.

Home Ownership Opportunity Program**\$35,000.00**

Summary: Project will administer existing HOOP first-time home buyer program which provides buyer counseling and technical assistance. The project will be administered by the Twin Cities CDC located at 195 Kimball Street.

Performance Measurement: DH-2. The goal of this project is to promote homeownership through downpayment assistance, educate first-time homebuyers about the benefits and burdens of homeownership and improve the housing stock via rehabilitation. The benefit of this project is more stable neighborhoods, informed consumers, increased equity and income diversity within targeted neighborhoods. Approximately 75 households will receive pre-purchase counseling, 20 units will be deleaded and/or rehabilitated, and 20 families will purchase a new home.

Sign and Facade Improvement Program**\$20,000.00**

Summary: Project funds will be used to supplement available funds for matching grants and loans to provide for facade and signage/awning projects for owners of commercial properties in Fitchburg's designated Slums and Blight area. Architectural costs are included. This program is administered by the Planning Office.

Performance Measurement: EO-3. The goal of this project is the revitalization of Fitchburg's business district and restoration of its historic character. The benefit of this project is the elimination of blight conditions. It is estimated that one façade activity and four signage/awnings activities will be accomplished.

Housing Rehab and HOOP Program**\$140,000.00**

Summary: Project funds will be used to supplement funding for the City's various housing programs for homeownership and rental units.

Performance Measurement: DH-2. The goal of this project is to provide safe and affordable housing to Fitchburg residents. The benefit is an improved and affordable housing stock. It is estimated that 1 new homeowner unit, 1 shelter, and 3 rental units will be assisted.

Code Enforcement**\$77,000.00**

Summary: Project will provide comprehensive enforcement of the State's Sanitary Code as part of an overall housing improvement strategy in CDBG neighborhoods. Funds will be used to pay for one inspector position and a portion of the Board of Health administrative costs.

Performance Measurement: DH-1. The goal of this project is to inspect housing units in the CDBG Strategy area and ensure compliance with State Sanitary Code. The benefit of this project is the continued availability and accessibility of quality housing stock. It is estimated that 750 housing units will be inspected.

TOTAL REHABILITATION AND PRESERVATION**\$332,000.00**

PLANNING AND ADMINISTRATION

CDBG Administration and Planning

\$265,000.00

Summary: Project funds will provide for necessary administration of CDBG programs and sub-recipient contracts in accordance with federal guidelines, including staffing, technical services and planning activities. This also includes grant writing and administration of grant projects.

Performance Measurement: N/A. The goal of this project is to administer the CDBG Program in accordance with regulatory and statutory requirements. The benefit of this project is a more viable urban community with an improved quality of life for all residents, particularly those of low to moderate income.

TOTAL PLANNING AND ADMINISTRATION

\$265,000.00

TOTAL RECOMMENDED YEAR 34 CDBG PROGRAM

\$1,223,049.08

TOTAL ANTICIPATED FUNDING

\$1,223,049.08

Anticipated Year 34 Entitlement	\$1,152,851.00
Anticipated CDBG Program Income as of 6/30/08 (Loan Float payment receipts from Twin Cities CDC)	\$ 6,999.69
Reprogrammed Amount/Recaptured Amount	\$ 63,198.39

Other CDBG Program Income

*Potential CDBG Program Income from 7/1/08 to 6/30/09	\$ 5,987.00
*Anticipated CDBG Housing Revolving Loan Fund Balance as of 6/30/08	\$125,000.00
*Potential CDBG Housing Revolving Loan Fund Income from 7/1/08 to 6/30/09	\$150,000.00
*Anticipated CDBG Business Revolving Loan Fund Balance as of 6/30/08	\$125,000.00
*Potential CDBG Business Revolving Fund Income from 7/1/08 to 6/30/09	\$ 24,000.00

AMENDMENT #1, September 16, 2008

1. Downtown Coordinator - \$5,000: Funds not appropriated by Council. Unused funds transferred to Year 32 City Hall Accessibility Ramp Project to supplement existing budget for construction costs.

FITCHBURG-LEOMINSTER CONSORTIUM HOME PROPOSED ACTION PLAN

Anticipated Year 34 HOME Formula Grant

Anticipated HOME Consortium funding for Year 34 Program	\$ 609,894.00
Estimated HOME Program Match (State 25%)	\$ 137,226.15

Use of Funds

Performance Measurement

HOME Program Administration (10%)	(N/A)	\$ 60,989.40
CHDO Set Aside (15%)	(DH-2)	\$ 91,484.10
Homeowner Assistance (75%)	(DH-2)	\$ 457,420.50

HOME Program Income

*Anticipated HOME Program Income as of 6/30/08	\$ 256,000.00
*Potential HOME Program Income from 7/1/08 to 6/30/09	\$ 321,000.00

The complete Consolidated Plan, compiled for a five year period beginning Year 31 through Year 35 and the proposed Year 34 Action Plan for CDBG and HOME may be reviewed in the Office of the Planning Coordinator, 718 Main Street, Fitchburg, MA. 01420, Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:30a.m. and 4:30p.m.

Public comments on the proposed Year 34 Action Plan will be accepted for thirty days from the date of this notice. Send written comments to the Office of the Planning Coordinator, 718 Main Street, Fitchburg, MA. 01420. A public hearing on the proposed Action Plan will be held on Thursday, April 26, 2007 at 5:00p.m. in the Veterans Room, First Floor, 718 Main Street, City Hall, Fitchburg, MA. 01420. For further information please contact Mary McCaffrey at the Planning Office at (978) 345-1018. TTY (for hearing impaired) (978) 345-9567.